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PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Thursday, 3 December 1998

SECURITY COUNCIL

10.30 a.m.	consultations of the whole (closed)	Consultation Room

Angola (S/1998/1110 and S/1998/1135)*

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Briefing by the Secretariat

Other matters

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* With a view to a formal meeting.

SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 1160 (1998)

3.30 p.m.	6th meeting* (closed)	Conference Room 7

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* Immediately after the meeting, the Chairman will give an oral briefing to interested members of the United Nations in the same conference room. Following the oral briefing to members of the United Nations, the Chairman will give a briefing to the press.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

10 a.m. 1 p.m.	1st meeting	Trusteeship Council Chamber

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

Open-ended Informal Consultations of the Plenary on Agenda Item 30 (United Nations reform: measures and proposals)

10.30 a.m.	1st meeting (closed)	Conference Room 4

3 p.m.	78th PLENARY MEETING	General Assembly Hall

1. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [18]:

   (a) Report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/53/23 (Parts I-IX));

   (b) Reports of the Secretary-General (A/53/368, A/53/130 and Corr.1);

   (c) Draft resolutions (A/53/L.58, A/53/23 (Part II), Chapter III, para.12)

2. Effects of atomic radiation: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/53/595) [81]

3. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/53/596) [82]

4. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/53/597) [83]

5. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/53/598) [84]

6. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/53/599) [85]

7. Questions relating to information: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/53/600) [86]

8. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/53/601) [87]

9. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/53/ 602) [88 and 18]

10. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/53/603) [89 and 12]

11. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/53/604) [90]

12. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) (A/53/594) [18]

13. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: draft resolutions (A/53/L.58, A/53/23 (Part II), Chapter III, para.12) [18]

Committees

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m. 1 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda items 113 (Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999: Conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials: members of the International Court of Justice (A/C.5/53/11 and A/53/7/Add.6) and Financial arrangements associated with the dining room at the International Court of Justice (A/C.5/53/19)), 144 (Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (A/51/432, A/51/530 and Corr.1, A/51/801, A/52/426, A/52/464 and A/53/428)) and 165 (Joint Inspection Unit (A/51/34, A/52/34 and Corr.1 (French only), A/51/559 and Corr.1, A/52/206, A/52/267 and A/53/180))

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations of agenda item 145 (Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/218 B)

6.30 p.m.- 9.30 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

Informal consultations on agenda item 113 (Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999: Development account (A/52/1009 and A/53/7/Add.1))

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.- 1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m. 6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

Subject

UNICEF

* * *

ANNOUNCEMENT

Delegations are reminded that Rule 27 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly provides as follows:

> "The credentials of representatives and the names of members of a delegation shall be submitted to the Secretary-General if possible not less than one week before the opening of the session. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs."

Delegations who have not submitted credentials in the form required by Rule 27 to the Secretary-General in respect of the Fifty-third session of the Assembly are asked to do so without delay so that these credentials may be examined by the Credentials Committee at its second meeting.

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

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Thursday, 3 December 1998

GROUP OF 77
(on Fifth Committee matters)

9 a.m.-9.45 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 5

EASTERN EUROPEAN GROUP
(on Second Committee matters)

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 7

AFRICAN GROUP OF THE WHOLE

4 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Economic and Social Council Chamber

AFRICAN GROUP: GROUP OF EXPERTS
(on draft resolutions A/53/L.39 and L.40)

4 p.m.-7 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 9

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There will be meetings of the Technical Group of the Panel of External Auditors of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) *today*, 3 December 1998, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. in Conference Room 8.

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Informal meeting

The Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) will hold a meeting to celebrate its fiftieth anniversary on the theme "CONGO at fifty: a reaffirmation of commitment". The event, sponsored by the Department of Public Information, will take place *today*, 3 December 1998, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Conference Room 1. The keynote speaker will be Ms. Louise Fréchette, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the accredited media are invited to attend.

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Informal consultations

There will be informal consultations, organized by the Permanent Mission of Canada, *today*, 3 December 1998, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 6 on follow-up to the report of the Secretary General on "Arrangements and Practices for the Interaction of Non-governmental Organizations in all Activities of the United Nations System" (A/53/170). All interested delegations are invited to attend.

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Announcement

As from Wednesday, 2 December 1998, and for the rest of the month, the Presidency of the Security Council will conduct informal briefings on the current work of the Council for Member States of the United Nations which are non-members of the Council daily, except on days on which no informal consultations are scheduled. The briefings will take place at 1.15 p.m., or shortly after the adjournment of the informal consultations, in the Press Briefing Room (S-226).

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Friday, 4 December 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

10 a.m. 79th PLENARY MEETING General Assembly Hall

1. Role of science and technology in the context of international security, disarmament and other related fields: report of the First Committee (A/53/576) [63]

2. Maintenance of international security-prevention of the violent disintegration of States: report of the First Committee (A/53/577) [64]

3. Reduction of military budgets: report of the First Committee (A/53/578) [65]

4. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament: report of the First Committee (A/53/579) [66]

5. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East: report of the First Committee (A/53/580) [67]

6. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in South Asia: report of the First Committee (A/53/581) [68]

7. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons: report of the First Committee (A/53/582) [69]

8. Prevention of an arms race in outer space: report of the First Committee (A/53/583) [70]

9. General and complete disarmament: report of the First Committee (A/53/584) [71]

10. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly: report of the First Committee (A/53/585) [72]

11. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session: report of the First Committee (A/53/586) [73]

12. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East: report of the First Committee (A/53/587) [74]

13. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects: report of the First Committee (A/53/588) [75]

14. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region: report of the First Committee (A/53/589) [76]

15. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco): report of the First Committee (A/53/590) [77]

16. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction: report of the First Committee (A/53/591) [78]

17. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty: report of the First Committee (A/53/592) [79]

18. Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee: report of the First Committee (A/53/593) [80]

Committees

FIFTH COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	39th meeting	Conference Room 3
Morning*	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
3 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5
6.30 p.m.	informal consultations (closed)	Conference Room 5

* Following the adjournment of the 39th meeting of the Fifth Committee.

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

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The Credentials Committee will hold a special meeting on Friday, 4 December 1998 at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 6 to examine the credentials of Cambodia.

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Informal consultations on consumer protection guidelines for sustainable consumption will be conducted by Mr. George Talbot (Guyana), Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Sustainable Development on Monday, 7 December, at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 6 and on Tuesday, 8 December 1998, at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 7.

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The Technical Subgroup of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics will meet, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Ahmad Kamal (Pakistan), on Tuesday, 8 December 1998, at 10 a.m. sharp in Conference Room A.

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The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations will hold its resumed 1998 session from 14 to 18 December 1998 in Conference Room 1. The agenda is contained in document E/C.2/1998/1.

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on Informatics will take place over the whole day on Friday, 11 December 1998, in the Trusteeship Council Chamber, under the Chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Ahmad Kamal (Pakistan).

The meeting will be devoted to the Year 2000 Issue. It will focus on international cooperation, contingency planning for priority sectors and crisis management.

National Y2K Coordinators from all Member States have been invited. In order to help the developing countries and countries in transition ensure their participation, limited funding to cover costs of travel and stay has been made available by the Trust Fund of the World Bank on a first-come-first-served basis. All delegations are invited to participate.

Further information can be requested from the Information Technology Services Division of the Office of Central Support Services of the Secretariat (Mr. Eduardo Blinder (tel.: 212-963-8194, fax: 212-963-0952, e-mail: blinder@un.org)).

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

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Orientation course

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) is organizing an orientation course on the Security Council for members of the Council. The course will be held from Monday 7 to Wednesday 16 December 1998.

A letter on this subject, including an information note and a nomination form, was addressed to the permanent missions of all States that will be members of the Council in 1999. For further information, please contact Ms. Maud Graham (room DC1-603, tel.: 963-9196).

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Tuesday, 1 December 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

Committees

SECOND COMMITTEE 42nd meeting

Macroeconomic policy questions [91]

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.20 and L.57

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Burak Özügergin (Turkey), in the absence of Vice-Chairman Mr. Odyek Agona (Uganda), introduced and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.57.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution, as orally corrected.

Draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.20 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

The representative of The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia made a statement in which he informed the Committee that draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.14 had been withdrawn by its sponsors.

(b) Financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.4 and L.55

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Burak Özügergin (Turkey), in the absence of Vice-Chairman Mr. Odyek Agona (Uganda), introduced and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.55.

The representative of Chile further corrected the text, and pointed out corrections in the Spanish version. The representative of China corrected the Chinese version of the text.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution, as orally corrected.

Draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.4 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee adopted a draft decision taking note of documents A/53/228 and A/53/479.

The Committee thus concluded consideration of agenda item 91 (b).

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation [93]

(c) Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The Committee resumed consideration of the item and adopted an oral decision proposed by the Chairman taking note of document A/53/512.

The Committee thus concluded consideration of agenda item 93 (c).

(d) Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.36 and L.49

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Burak Özügergin (Turkey), introduced and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.49.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution, as orally corrected.

Draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.36 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee adopted a draft decision taking note of documents A/53/85, A/53/374 and A/53/296.

The Committee thus concluded consideration of agenda item 93 (d) and of agenda item 93 as a whole.

Environment and sustainable development [94]

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.17 and L.59

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.59.

The representative of France corrected the French version of the text.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution, as orally corrected.

Draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.17 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.21 and L.58

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced and orally amended draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.58.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution, as orally amended.

Draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.21 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

(a) Implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including the outcome of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly for the purpose of an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.25 and L.53

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.53.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.25 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

The Committee thus concluded consideration of agenda item 94 (a).

(b) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The Committee resumed consideration of the item and adopted an oral decision proposed by Chairman taking note of document A/53/449.

The Committee thus concluded consideration of agenda item 94 (b).

(d) Convention on Biological Diversity

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.29 and L.54

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.54.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution, as orally corrected.

Draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.29 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

The Committee thus concluded consideration of agenda item 94 (d).

(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drough.. and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.16 and L.52

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.52.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution.

The representative of the United States made a statement.

Draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.16 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

The Committee thus concluded consideration of agenda item 94 (e).

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee adopted a draft decision taking note of document A/53/156-E/1998/78.

The Chairman also brought to the attention of the Committee document A/C.2/53/10.

The Committee thus concluded agenda item 94 as a whole.

Operational activities for development [95]

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.8 and L.56

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced and orally corrected draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.56.

The representative of China corrected the Chinese version of the text.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution, as orally corrected.

Draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.8 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee adopted a draft decision taking note of documents A/53/226 and Add.1-4, A/53/154 and A/53/363.

The Committee thus concluded consideration of agenda item 95.

Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2001) [98]

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.27 and L.48

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. David Prendergast (Jamaica), introduced draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.48.

The representative of China corrected the Chinese version of the text.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.27 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee adopted a draft decision taking note of document A/53/223.

The Chairman also brought to the attention of the Committee document A/C.2/53/7.

The Committee thus concluded consideration of agenda item 98.

Macroeconomic policy questions [91]

(a) Trade and development

Action on draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.26/Rev.2

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Burak Özügergin (Turkey), in the absence of Vice-Chairman Mr. Odyek Agona (Uganda), introduced the draft resolution.

The representative of Indonesia informed the Committee that Norway had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution.

After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Saint Lucia, Fiji and Turkey.

Subsequently, the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya corrected the Arabic version of the text.

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee adopted a draft decision taking note of documents A/53/15 (Parts I, II and III), and A/53/510.

The Committee thus concluded consideration of agenda item 91 (a).

(c) Commodities

Action on draft resolutions A/C.2/53/L.5 and L.51

The Committee resumed consideration of the item.

The representative of Indonesia (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), requested a suspension of the meeting.

On the resumption of the meeting, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Burak Özügergin (Turkey), introduced and revised draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.51.

The representative of Côte d'Ivoire corrected the text.

The Committee then adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised and corrected.

Draft resolution A/C.2/53/L.5 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

The Committee thus concluded consideration of agenda item 91 (c) and of agenda item 91 as a whole.

Draft biennial programme of work for the Second Committee for 1999 and 2000 [12]

The Committee resumed consideration of the item and the Secretary of the Committee introduced and orally revised the draft biennial programme of work for the Second Committee for 1999-2000, as contained in document A/C/2/53/L.50.

The Director of the Division for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination of Department of Economic and Social Affairs suggested a substantive revision to the document.

The Committee then adopted the draft biennial programme of work for 1999-2000, as orally revised.

Closure of the work of the Second Committee

The Chairman made a statement.

Statements were made by the representatives of Indonesia (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Austria (on behalf of the European Union), the Russian Federation, China and Venezuela.

The Chairman then declared the work of the Second Committee closed.

Wednesday, 2 December 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-third session

76th plenary meeting

The situation in the Middle East [40]:

(a) Reports of the Secretary-General (A/53/550, A/53/652);

(b) Draft resolutions (A/53/L.52, A/53/L.53 and Corr.1 (English, Russian and Spanish only))

The representative of Qatar made a statement in the course of which he introduced draft resolution A/53/L.52.

The representative of Egypt made a statement in the course of which he introduced draft resolution A/53/L.53.

Statements were made by the representatives of Ukraine, the Syrian Arab Republic, Cyprus, the Republic of Korea, Norway, Australia, Chile and Cuba.

The representative of Israel made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

The General Assembly proceeded to take decisions on draft resolutions A/53/L.52 and L.53.

	Yes	*Against*	*Abstentions*
Draft resolution A/53/L.52 (recorded vote) (resolution 53/37)	149	1	7
Draft resolution A/53/L.53 and Corr.1 (recorded vote) (resolution 53/38)	97	2	58

Statements in explanation of vote after the vote were made by the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the European Union), Turkey, Argentina and Peru.

Statements in the exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Iraq, Egypt, the Syrian Arab Republic and Lebanon.

The observer of Palestine made a statement.

The General Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 40.

Question of Palestine: draft resolutions (A/53/L.48, A/53/L.49, A/53/L.50, A/53/L.51) [39]

Statements in explanation of vote before the vote were made by the representatives of the United States and Israel.

The General Assembly proceeded to take decisions on draft resolutions A/53/L.48, L.49, L.50 and L.51.

	Yes	*Against*	*Abstentions*
Draft resolution A/53/L.48 (recorded vote) (resolution 53/39)	110	2	48
Draft resolution A/53/L.49 (recorded vote) (resolution 53/40)	111	2	48
Draft resolution A/53/L.50 (recorded vote) (resolution 53/41)	156	2	2
Draft resolution A/53/L.51 (recorded vote) (resolution 53/42)	154	2	3

Statements in explanation of vote after the vote were made by the representatives of Mexico, Austria (on behalf of the European Union) and the Syrian Arab Republic.

The representative of China made a statement on a point of order.

The observer of Palestine made a statement.

The representative of Cuba made a statement on a point of order.

The General Assembly concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 39.

Programme of work

Fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights [46 (a)]

The General Assembly, on the proposal of the President, decided that statements made in the plenary during the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 1998 would be limited to five minutes.

The General Assembly decided to hear the observers of Switzerland and the Holy See in the commemoration in the plenary on 10 December 1998.

Tentative programme of work and schedule of plenary meetings of the General Assembly

The General Assembly's attention was drawn to document A/INF/53/3/Add.4 which contains a tentative programme of work and schedule of plenary meetings for the period from 2 to 10 December 1998.

The Assembly was informed that agenda item 160 (Global implications of the year 2000 date conversion problem of computers) would be considered on Monday, 7 December 1998, instead of on Friday, 4 December 1998, as previously announced.

77th plenary meeting

Fiftieth anniversary of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide: draft resolution (A/53/L.47) [46 (b)]

Statements were made by the representatives of Austria (on behalf of the European Union and of Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia), Cyprus, Monaco, the United States, Liechtenstein, Ukraine, Poland and Turkey.

The representative of Armenia made a statement in the course of which he introduced draft resolution A/53/L.47.

Statements were made by the representatives of Israel, the Russian Federation, Norway, Cuba and Rwanda.

The General Assembly adopted draft resolution A/53/L.47 (resolution 53/43).

Statements in the exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of Turkey and Armenia.

The Assembly decided to conclude its consideration of agenda item 46 (b).

DISARMAMENT COMMISSION 225th meeting

Opening of the session

The 1998 organizational session of the Disarmament Commission was opened by the Vice-Chairman, H.E. Mr. Fernando Guillén, who made a statement.

Adoption of the Agenda

The Disarmament Commission adopted a provisional agenda for the 1998 organizational session, as contained in document A/CN.10/L.43.

Election of the Chairman and other officers

The Commission elected, Mrs. Angelica Arce, as Vice-Chairman of the Commission.

It was decided that further consultations will be held with regard to candidates for the post of the Chairman of the Commission as well as the remaining vacant posts of the Vice-Chairmen and the Rapporteur.

Adoption of draft provisional agenda

The Commission has considered the draft provisional agenda for the 1999 substantive session as contained in document A/CN.10/1998/CRP.7.

Organizational Matters

The Commission has established three working groups. Working Group I dealing with "The establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned"; Working Group II on "The fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament" and Working Group III dealing with " Guidelines on conventional arms control/limitation and disarmament, with particular emphasis on consolidation of peace in the context of General Assembly resolution 51/45 N".

The Commission by acclamation elected H.E. Emilio Izquierdo (Ecuador) and Mr. Michael Hoey (Ireland) as Chairmen of Working Groups I and III respectively.

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS
Nineteenth session
United Nations Office at Geneva

WEDNESDAY, 2 DECEMBER 1998

53rd and 54th (closed) meetings

Consideration of reports [6]

(a) *Reports submitted by States parties under articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant*

The Committee continued and concluded its consideration of the initial report of Israel (E/1990/5/Add.39) and of the third periodic report of Germany (E/1994/104/Add.14) by adopting concluding observations with respect to each of them.

The Committee continued the examination of the third periodic report of Cyprus (E/1994/104/Add.12).

SIGNATURES, RATIFICATIONS, ETC.

[MULTILATERAL TREATIES DEPOSITED WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL]

Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction. Oslo, 18 September 1997

Ratification: Lesotho (2 December 1998)*

International Sugar Agreement, 1992. Geneva, 20 March 1992

Extension of time-limit under article 38 (2) of the Agreement for the deposit of instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval until 31 December 1999.

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. New York, 10 September 1996

Ratification: Sweden (2 December 1998)*

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* Date of receipt of the relevant documents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People

Exhibition

The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations will present a Palestinian cultural exhibit entitled "Bethlehem 2000," in observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. The exhibit will be displayed in the Public Lobby of the General Assembly Building until Sunday, 6 December 1998.

Screening of films

In observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People has arranged the screening of the films entitled "Al Nakba: Palestinian Catastrophe, 1948" and "Journey to Bethlehem 2000". They can be viewed at the cultural exhibit area until 4 December 1998.

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International Day of Disabled Persons

The theme for the observance of the Day in 1998 is "Arts, culture and independent living". A message of the Secretary-General, as well as further information, can be found on the Internet at http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/disid98.htm

Today, 3 December 1998, from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m., a panel discussion on "Independent living: lifecycle approaches to sustainable and secure livelihoods of persons with disabilities", organised by the Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will take place in *Conference Room 2* with the participation of distinguished experts from the academic, non-governmental and private sectors. H.E. Bagher Asadi, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran, will serve as moderator. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the accredited media are invited to attend.

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Staff Council

There will be a meeting of the Staff Council *today*, 3 December 1998, from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room 4. The meeting is open to staff members only.

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Presentation of gift

On Friday 4 December, at 12.30 p.m. the President of the General Assembly, in his capacity as Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay, will present a gift of a sculpture in wood entitled "Amaneciendo Verticalmente". The unveiling of the sculpture, by artist Ricardo Pascale, will take place in front of the Secretariat Building. The sculpture will be received by the Deputy Secretary-General on behalf of the United Nations.

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Signing ceremony

The United Nations and the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) are launching a Programme of Co-operation. The signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding between the two organizations, organized by the Division for Public Economics and Public Administration, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, will take place on Monday, 7 December 1998, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 9. A panel discussion on "Accountability in Governance: Perspectives from ASPA" will follow. All interested delegations and Secretariat staff are invited to attend. For information please contact: Ms. Jeanne-Marie Col (Tel: 963- 8377) or Mr. Gary Manukyan (Tel. 963-5410).

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Commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at United Nations Headquarters

General Assembly

10 December 1998

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Opening of the plenary meeting

Presentation of the Human Rights Prizes

Statements on the fiftieth anniversary

3 p.m. to 6.15 p.m. Continuation of the plenary meeting

9.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m. Continuation of the plenary meeting

Other events at Headquarters

[All events are open to delegations, Secretariat staff, non-governmental organizations and the media.]
3-9 December 1998

Human Rights Film Festival, organized by the International Council of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, in cooperation with the United Nations, in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium on 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9 December

Screening of each film at 6 p.m., each followed by a panel discussion

10 December 1998

9.15 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Video conference between H.E. Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and H.E. Mr. Jacques Chirac, President of the French Republic

11.15 a.m. Press conference of the Human Rights Prize winners [Open to the media only]

11.45 a.m. Opening of the UNICEF exhibit, entitled "Child Rights: A New Era for Children", by Ms. Carol Bellamy, Executive Director of UNICEF, and Ms. Vanessa Redgrave, UNICEF Special Representative for the Performing Arts (Main gallery of the Public Lobby of the General Assembly Building)

12.15 p.m. Screening of the DPI documentary film on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, entitled "For Everyone, Everywhere" English, 30 minutes. Panel discussion to follow (Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium)

1.05 p.m. Opening of the DPI Human Rights Exhibit by the Secretary-General, with the President of the General Assembly, the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Human Rights Prize winners (Public Lobby of the General Assembly Building)

1.15 p.m. Screening of the DPI documentary film on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, entitled "Tous les êtres humains..." French, 30 minutes. (Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium)

2 p.m. to 5 p.m. UNICEF, UNHCR and Amnesty International presentation on the theme "For the Worldwide Right to Asylum", hosted by Ms. Vanessa Redgrave, UNICEF Special Representative for the Performing Arts, with statements by senior United Nations officials, human rights advocates and artists (Conference Room 1)

5.30 p.m. Presentation of children's passport version of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to the Secretary-General by United Nations Messengers of Peace (Public Lobby of the General Assembly Building)

6.30 p.m. Special event, including an introduction of the Human Rights Prize winners and the presentation of the Human Rights Website of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 250 languages, co-sponsored by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of San Marino, the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights and the Department of Public Information (DPI), followed by a reception, hosted by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of San Marino (Public Lobby of the General Assembly Building)

8 p.m. to 9.15 p.m. Recital by Luciano Pavarotti and Wynton Marsalis (General Assembly Hall). *Tickets to be issued.*

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